

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 SSM-03 PA-01
IO-13 PCH-02 /054 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
PA/PRESS - MR. CARTER
H - MR. FLATEN
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----017577 310130Z /63

O 302227Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
SECDEF WASHDC 0412
JCS WASHDC 0340
CIA WASHDC 0399
NSC WASHDC 0321
USCINCEUR
RUEHIA USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - MAY 30, 1978

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR MAY 30, 1978. FYI ONLY,
OFFICER PRESENT TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THE ISRAELI RADIO REPORT TO THE
EFFECT THAT NATO MEMBERS ARE WORKING ON AN AMENDMENT ON
THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE?

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A. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REPORTS WHICH ARE UNFORTUNATELY
INACCURATE WHEN IT COMES TO THE LANGUAGE WHICH IS BEING
CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATO COMMUNIQUE ON THE
MIDDLE EAST. THE NATO DRAFTING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN MEETING
TO WORK ON THE COMMUNIQUE AND THERE CANNOT BE AN ANSWER
AS TO WHAT'S GOING TO BE IN THE COMMUNIQUE UNTIL THE
DRAFTING COMMITTEE FINISHES ITS WORK. AND THE SECOND
THING IS: EVEN AFTER THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE IS THROUGH,
THE LANGUAGE WON'T BE COMPLETE UNTIL THE NATO FOREIGN
MINISTERS HAVE IN FACT -- OR WHOEVER IT MAY BE --
CONSIDERED IT AND ISSUED IT.

BEGIN BACKGROUND:

SO ON BACKGROUND, PARAGRAPH 1 OF REUTERS 283, FOR
EXAMPLE, REFERS TO FULL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED
ARAB LANDS. QUITE OBVIOUSLY, THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT
INTEND TO CHANGE ITS 11 YEAR OLD POSITION ON ISRAELI
WITHDRAWAL UNDER RESOLUTION 242. AND, IN FACT, THAT IS
SIMPLY NOT IN THERE.

Q. OK. HOW ABOUT THE IDEA THAT WHATEVER IS BEING DONE IS

BEING DONE AT THE US INITIATIVE? DO YOU WANT TO TAKE THE
US OUT OF IT AS THE PRIME MOVER OR DO YOU WANT TO?--

A. I DO NOT THINK THAT WE'RE A PRIME MOVER IN THE RESO-
LUTION. I THINK WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN DRAFTING THE COM-
MUNIQUE.

END BACKGROUND.

Q. HAS THE US DEPARTMENT BEEN CONTACTED BY THE ISRAELI
AMBASSADOR TO INTERVENE IN THIS REGARD TO THE SUPPORT
ABOUT THE RESOLUTION?

A. WE'VE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELIS ON THIS QUESTION.
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VANCE

NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED AGIERS.

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NNN

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